



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/965,356	11/06/97	BERNFIELD	M CMOC533

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HM42/0420

EXAMINER	
WEDDINGTON, K	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1614	2
DATE MAILED: 04/20/98	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No. 08/965,356	Applicant(s) Bernfield
	Examiner Kevin E. Weddington	Group Art Unit 1614

Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 1 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims 1-25 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit: 1205

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-9 and 15-18 are drawn to a non-human transgenic animal constructed genetically with a promoter and a nucleic acid molecule encoding a syndecan, classified in class 435, subclass 240.2 +.
- II. Claims 10-14 are drawn to a method for screening for compounds which can alter body weight, classified in class 435, various subclasses .
- III. Claims 19-25 are drawn to a method for regulating body weight with a compound that interferes with melanocortin 4 receptor function, classified in class 514, subclass 909.

The three inventions are independent and distinct, each from the other as they have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and a separate subject matter for inventive effort. Further, a reference which anticipates any one of the above inventions would neither anticipate or make obvious of the other invention. Each such invention is capable of supporting its own patent. For these reasons, the restriction requirement is proper.

To be complete, applicants' response must include a provisional election even though the requirement may be traverse.

The applicants are required to elect a single invention for examination purposes.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner K. Weddington whose telephone number is (703) 308-4650.

KE - Weddington

**KEVIN E. WEDDINGTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Art Unit 1614

K. Weddington

April 15, 1998